## **REMARKS**

Claims 42-46 are pending herein. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-41 have been cancelled.

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits.

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to include a cross-reference to parent U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/768,162, filed January 24, 2001. It also cancels claims 1-41. The instant divisional application includes claims 42-46 which were cancelled in the parent application as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,/ SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUS

Dv.

Frederick F. Calvety, Reg. No. 28,554

1850 M Street, N.W., Suite 800

Washington, D.C. 20036 Telephone: (202) 263-4300

Fax: (202) 263-4329

Dated: July 15, 2003